THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

That the Board approve the establishment of the Disney II Magnet School as a Renaissance Performance School.

This March 2008 Board Report amendment is necessary to (1) identify that the school will be located at 3815 North Kedvale Avenue, (2) identify the school's enrollment requirements, school day and calendar and (3) specify that the school shall be known as Disney II Magnet School.

This July 2008 amendment is necessary in order for the Bureau of Student Transportation to provide transportation in the form of Chicago Transit Authority fare cards or travel reimbursements for parents and guardians of students who qualify for transportation under the magnet school policy.

This May 2013 Amendment is necessary to revise the enrollment policy in order to enroll students in grades 9-12 in addition to grades K-12 and provide a location for a second campus at 3900 North Lawndale Avenue. The Board approved this grade expansion in December 2012 (12-1219-EX3).

DESCRIPTION:

School Designation: Disney II Magnet School is scheduled to open at 3815 North Kedvale Avenue in the fall of 2008 as a Magnet School and a Performance School in accordance with Board's Renaissance Schools Policy, 07-0627-PO4, as amended ("Renaissance Policy").

Public Hearing: A public hearing on the opening of the Disney II Magnet School was held on October 15, 2007 at Disney Elementary, 4140 North Marine Drive, Chicago, IL 60613 in accordance with the Renaissance Policy. The hearing was recorded. A summary report of the hearing is available for review. A public hearing on the proposed location of the Disney II Magnet School was held on Monday March 17, 2008 at 3815 N. Kedvale. A summary report of the public hearing is available for review.

Request for Proposals: In April 2007, the Office of New Schools issued a Request for Proposals to solicit responses from parties interested in starting schools under the Renaissance 2010 Initiative. Design Frameworks to operate either a charter, contract or performance school were submitted by interested parties on June 4, 2007. Supplemental proposal materials for approved design frameworks were submitted on August 6, 2007. Proposals were evaluated pursuant to the standards set forth in the Renaissance Policy. Proposals were reviewed by the Office of New Schools and a Comprehensive Evaluation Team and recommendations were submitted to the Chief Executive Officer based upon those reviews and evaluations.

School Design Team: The proposal for the establishment for Disney II Magnet School was submitted by the Disney II Design Team, comprised of the current principal of Walt Disney Magnet School, the LAUNCH principal intern at Disney Elementary, the Technology Coordinator and several teachers from Disney Elementary, as well as the Senior Executive Director of Chicago Leadership Academy for Supporting Success (CLASS). CPS will establish the school with the assistance of the design team.

School Profile: Disney II Magnet School is scheduled to open as a magnet school in the fall of 2008 serving approximately 190 students in grades preK through 2. In subsequent years the school will grow and serve up to 490 students in grades preK through 8. Disney II Magnet School will offer a rigorous and relevant curriculum based on the proven, successful curriculum of the current Walt Disney Magnet School. The Disney II curriculum will utilize differentiated instruction and instructional strategies that
effectively serve the needs of students at all levels, establishing a nurturing learning environment, integrating arts and technology pervasively, and modeling a disciplined, professional learning community that includes faculty, students, and community stakeholders. Disney II will prepare students to meet and exceed the Illinois Learning Standards in the four core areas of literacy, mathematics, science and social studies while emulating the current Disney Magnet School's successful integration of arts and technology to enliven and enrich the academic program.

Enrollment: Disney II Magnet School shall enroll students based on a citywide magnet application process set out in the Options for Knowledge guide. For the 2008-2009 school year, a special magnet application process will be held in the spring 2008 for seats at the school. In the event that the number of eligible applicants exceeds the school's enrollment capacity, applicants shall be selected by random computerized lottery.

For the 2012-2013 admissions cycle, Disney II Magnet School will adhere to the citywide magnet process defined by the Admissions policy for Magnet, Selective Enrollment, and other Options for Knowledge Schools and Programs (11-0824-P02) for its current grades K through 6th. For 7th grade, current 6th grade students will be allowed to matriculate up, and any additional 7th grade seats will be offered through random computerized lottery for those who applied through the Options for Knowledge process with siblings of existing Disney II students receiving first priority. A special magnet application process will be held for 9th grade seats at the school. Applicants must have a minimum 5 stanine in reading and math (combination 10 for students with disabilities) on the 7th grade ISAT. Siblings of current Disney II students (as defined in the magnet admissions policy) who meet the minimum criteria will be accepted first. 50% of the remaining seats will be designated for students within a 1.5 mile proximity radius of the facility located at 3900 North Lawndale Avenue. Remaining seats will be distributed though the socioeconomic tier process outlined by the magnet admissions policy.

For the 2013-2014 admissions cycle, 6th grade students will be allowed to matriculate up to 7th grade. Siblings of current Disney II students (as defined in the magnet admissions policy) will be first. 40% of the remaining seats will be designated for students within a 1.5 mile proximity radius of the facility located at 3900 North Lawndale Avenue. Remaining seats will be distributed though the socioeconomic tier process outlined by the magnet admissions policy. For 9th grade, siblings of current Disney II students who meet the minimum criteria will be accepted first. 40% of the remaining seats will be designated for students within a 1.5 mile proximity radius of the facility located at 3900 North Lawndale Avenue. Remaining seats will be distributed though the socioeconomic tier process outlined by the magnet admissions policy.

For the 2014-2015 admissions cycle and beyond, 6th grade students will be allowed to matriculate up to 7th grade. Siblings of current Disney II students (as defined in the magnet admissions policy) will be accepted first. 40% of the remaining seats will be designated for students within the 1.5 mile proximity radius of the facility located at 3900 North Lawndale Avenue. Remaining seats will be distributed through the socioeconomic tier process outlined by the magnet admissions policy. 9th grade seats will first go to returning 8th graders. Siblings of current Disney II students meeting the minimum criteria will then be accepted. 40% of remaining seats will be designated for students within a 1.5 mile radius of the facility located at 3900 North Lawndale Avenue. All remaining seats will be distributed through the socioeconomic tier process outlined by the magnet admissions policy.

Academic Calendar: At inception, Disney II Magnet School will follow Chicago Public Schools' standard 10-month academic calendar from August to June with a summer school program in July and August.

School Day: At inception, Disney II Magnet School will employ an open campus model with a minimum teacher school day of 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. school day. Teachers will commit to after-school training and activities with students, staff and community. Students’ standard school day will be from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. After-school programming will be established to provide tutoring, instructional activities, enrichment activities and/or social center activities to students.

Advisory Body: Initially, Disney II Magnet School will establish a transitional advisory body. Thereafter, a
Local School Council with voting boundaries will be established in a timely manner pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/34-2.1c.

Performance Plan: The operation and performance of Disney II Magnet School will be in accordance with a Performance Plan to be established pursuant the Renaissance Policy and approval by the Board. At a minimum, the Performance Plan will address student academic outcomes and financial and management practices of the school.

CONTINGENT APPROVAL: The establishment of this school by the Board and the entering into an evaluation performance plan is contingent upon the school design team meeting the benchmarks detailed by the Office of New Schools, including but not limited to accepting and preparing to open in the CPS facility that is offered to the Disney II design team. These benchmarks will be communicated to the school design team with all deadlines to be met by May 30, 2008. The Office of New Schools will oversee the enforcement of these deadlines; failure to meet these deadlines may, at the option of the Board, result in the rescission of the authority granted herein and the denial of the performance school application. The Chief Executive Officer or his designee will file a report, approved by the General Counsel as to legal form, indicating the CEO’s final approval or denial of the performance school application and the satisfactory resolution of all material issues related to the formation of the school. The report will be filed with the Secretary of the Board on or before June 30, 2008. This final review will be conducted to determine compliance with the terms indicated above.

FINANCIAL: Using current year financial data, the General Fund cost of 190 students in 2008-09 will be approximately $766,050.00. The financial implications will be addressed during the development of the 2008-2009 fiscal year budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond FY08 are deemed to be contingent liabilities only, subject to appropriation in subsequent fiscal year budgets. The Bureau of Student Transportation will provide transportation in the form of Chicago Transit Authority fare cards or travel reimbursements for parents and guardians of students who qualify for transportation under the magnet school policy. The financial implications incurred by the May 2013 amendments will be addressed during the development of the 2013-2014 fiscal year budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond FY13 are deemed to be contingent liabilities only, subject to appropriation in subsequent fiscal year budgets.

PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS: As a Performance School, Disney II Magnet School will employ CPS teachers and staff. Performance Schools are subject to the collective bargaining agreements between CPS and the Chicago Teachers Union and other labor organizations, including the waiver provisions of those agreements.
Approved:

Jack Elsey
Chief Officer of Innovation and Incubation

Respectfully Submitted:

Barbara Byrd-Bennett
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form:

RV

James L. Beasley
General Counsel